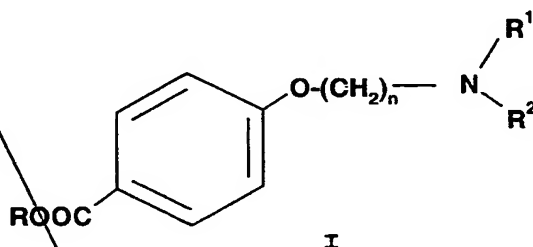


I claim:

1. A process for preparing a compound of formula I



wherein;

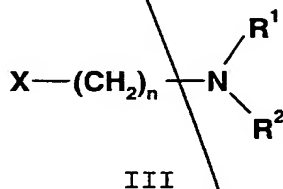
R is C₁-C₆ alkyl;

R¹ and R² each are independently C₁-C₄ alkyl, or combine together with the nitrogen atom to which R¹ and R² are attached, to form piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, methylpyrrolidinyl, dimethylpyrrolidinyl, morpholino, or 1-hexamethyleneimino; and

n is 2 or 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which comprises the step of:

reacting a haloalkyl amine of formula III

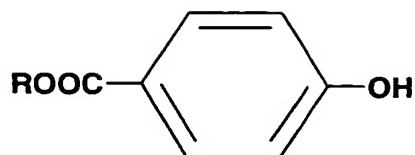


wherein;

X is a halogen; and

R¹, R², and n are as defined above, with a compound of formula IV

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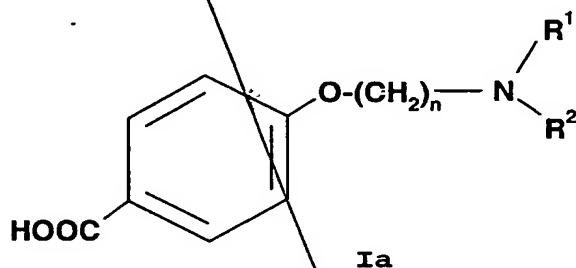
IV

wherein R is C₁-C₆ alkyl, in the presence of a hydrated inorganic base and an appropriate solvent.

5 2. The process according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

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10 a) extracting the reaction product of Claim 1 with an aqueous acid; and optionally

 b) cleaving the ester of the reaction product from step a) to form an acid compound of formula Ia



Ia

15 3. A process according to Claim 1 wherein the hydrated inorganic base is selected from the group consisting of potassium carbonate, sodium hydroxide,
20 potassium hydroxide, lithium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, calcium carbonate.

 4. A process according to Claim 1 wherein the solvent is a C₁-C₆ alkyl acetate solvent selected from the

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group consisting of amyl acetate, isopropyl acetate,
isobutyl acetate and ethyl acetate.

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5. A process according to Claim 1 wherein said C₁-
C₆ alkyl acetate solvent is amyl acetate.

6. A process according to Claim 1 wherein said
hydrated inorganic base is a carbonate or bicarbonate
salt.

10
7. A process according to Claim 6 wherein said
carbonate salt is potassium carbonate hydrated with 1-20%
water.

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8. A process according to Claim 7 wherein said
hydrated potassium carbonate is achieved by adding bulk
water.

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9. A process according to Claim 7 wherein said
hydrated potassium carbonate is achieved by water of
hydration.

25
10. A process according to Claim 7 wherein said
carbonate salt is potassium carbonate sesquihydrate.

30
11. A process according to Claim 1 wherein R¹ and R²
combine together with the nitrogen atom to which R¹ and R²
are attached, to form piperidinyl; and

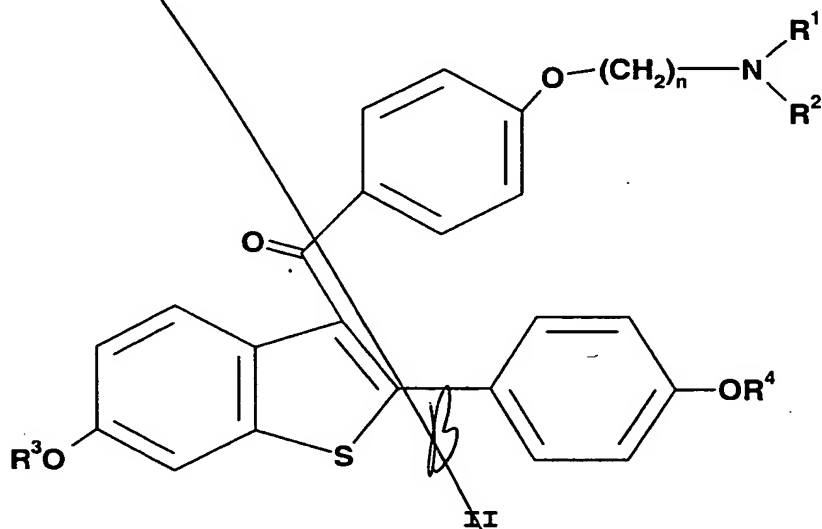
n is 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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12. A process according to Claim 2 wherein said aqueous acid is hydrochloric acid.

5 13. A process according to Claim 2 for preparing compounds of formula II



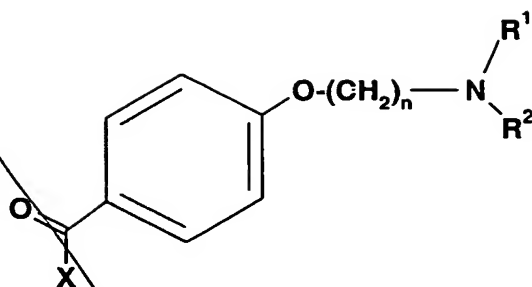
wherein;

10 R^3 and R^4 are independently hydrogen or a hydroxy protecting group; and

R^1 , R^2 and n are as defined above;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,
comprising the steps of:

15 a) reacting a compound of formula I or Ia with an acyl halide forming agent to form a compound of formula V

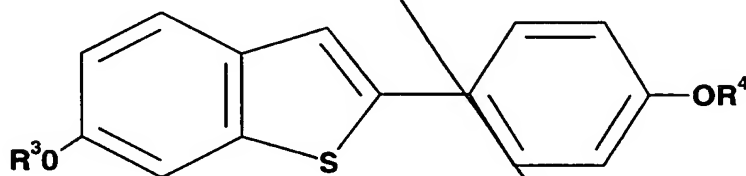
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V

wherein X is a halogen, and

- 5 b) reacting a compound of formula V with a compound of formula VI



VI

- 10 wherein R³ and R⁴ are as defined above, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 15 14. A process according to Claim 1 or 13 wherein; R¹ and R² combine with the nitrogen atom to which R¹ and R² are attached, to form a piperidinyl moiety, R³ and R⁴ each are hydrogen, and n is 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, or derivative thereof.

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